(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the issues discussed and decisions arrived at so far;

(d) the assurances got so far for various projects especially for Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) the present status of US-India 3.0 in the present third era?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR) : (a) to (c) The U.S. Secretary of State, Mrs. Hillary Clinton visited India during 17-21 July 2009. She called on Leader of Opposition and Chairperson, UPA and held delegation level talks with External Affairs Minister. EAM and Secretary Clinton reviewed bilateral relations and jointly announced a new agenda for Indo-US relations bilateral cooperation in (i) science technology, health and innovation; (ii) strategic cooperation; (iii) energy and climate change; (iv) education and development; and (v) economics, trade and agriculture. The revised dialogue architecture establishes new formalized interacton in the fields of health, education, women's empowerment, climate change and strategic issues. The two leaders also discussed regional and global issues of common concern including the challenge of terrorism, nuclear proliferation, climate change, the global financial crisis and UN reform among other issues.

(d) EAM and Secretary Clinton broadly discussed implementation of the 123 Agreement and reiterated the commitment of both Governments to the ongoing process of implementation of the Agreement on Civil Nuclear Cooperation signed by both governments on October 10, 2008.

(e) Secretary Clinton stated that depending of the Indo-US relationship was a priority for the US Government and a personal priority for her. External Affairs Minister conveyed to Secretary Clinton that India attaches importance to the further development of cooperation between India and the United States, and to the Indo-U.S. strategic partnership.

**Committee for affordable housing**

3556. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has constituted any Committee affordable housing for all;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the report of such committee; and

(d) if not, by when such a committee would be formed to provide affordable housing for the weaker sections like muslims in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government had set up a High Level Task Force under the Chairmanship of Mr. Deepak Parekh, Chairman, HDFC Ltd. to look into various aspects of providing 'Affordable Housing for All'.

(c) The High Level Task Force has presented the report on 29.12.2008.

The Task Force has strongly recommended the need for "Affordable Housing" and mentioned that delay in addressing the affordable housing problem would seriously affect India's economic growth and poverty reduction strategies. The Task Force notes that housing is central to economic growth and has multiplier effects on employment, poverty reduction etc. The Task Force estimates that alleviating the urban housing shortage could potentially raise the rate of growth of GDP and have a decisive impact on improving the basic quality of life.

The major recommendations of the Task Force are :-

(i.) 'Affordable Housing' be put at the centre of public policy.

(ii) Government may undertake a separate exercise to estimate the number of households in need of affordable housing. The Task Force visualizes the size of the household as five members.

(iii.) Upward revision in the FAR/FSI, across cities of different sizes commensurate with investment in infrastructure that it will necessitate.

(iv.) *In-situ* development on public lands for addressing affordable housing issues in partnership with the Government.

(v.) 'Security of tenure' be recognized as an important and integral tool for relieving pressures on the housing market. This may be undertaken through regularisation of settlements, community or cooperative ownership, security *via* lease, use rights, which enables *in-situ* development to take place.

(vi.) The recommendations on land related issue *i.e.* bringing in additional lands, upward revision in the FAR/FSI and *in-situ* development have to be implemented in an integrated manner.

(vii.) Role of State Housing Boards be revamped and the Boards be encouraged to focus on playing a more active role in the provision of affordable housing, even if is through public private partnerships.

(viii.) Bring 'affordable housing' under the infrastructure definition.

(d) Does not arise.

**IHSDP and BSUP**

3557. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI : Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would consider public-private partnership model for implementing the Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) and Basic Services for Urban Poor (BSUP); and

(b) whether Government would come out with a national programme for development of integrated satellite towns to ease the housing problem in view of the paucity of Government lands in metropolitan cities for housing development?